

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF SOUTH CAROLINA

CHIEF HEARING OFFICER DIRECTIVE

DOCKET NO. 2019-290-WS ORDER NO. 2022-14-H

MARCH 2, 2022

CHIEF HEARING OFFICER: David Butler

DOCKET DESCRIPTION:

Application of Blue Granite Water Company for Approval to Adjust Rate Schedules and Increase Rates

MATTER UNDER CONSIDERATION:

Ruling on Oral Argument on Petitions for Rehearing and/or Reconsideration by Blue Granite Water Company (“BGWC” or “the Company”) and Office of Regulatory Staff (“ORS”) and Modifying Response and Reply Dates/Times

CHIEF HEARING OFFICER’S ACTION:

This matter comes before the Chief Hearing Officer for consideration of several matters related to the Company and ORS Petitions for Rehearing and/or Reconsideration in this Docket and modifications to Response and Reply Dates/Times.

In Order No. 2022-114, the Commission requested that Blue Granite Water Company proceed to file the Motion asking for action on the Rates-Under-Bond-Deferral as soon as possible but not later than fifteen (15) days from the date of the Directive, rather than waiting until a later date. The Commission specifically requested that the Company include the impact on customer rates from the request for action on the Rates-Under-Bond-Deferral in its Motion. On February 22, 2022, BGWC filed its Petition for Rehearing and/or Reconsideration and Partial Stay of Order No. 2022-114, which alleged, among other things, that it would be impossible for the Company to comply with the fifteen (15) day deadline portion of the Commission Order. The fifteen-day deadline was stayed until further Order of the Commission by Order No. 2022-13-H, dated February 24, 2022. After issuance of that Order, on March 1, 2022, the Office of Regulatory Staff filed its Petition for Reconsideration of Order No. 2022-114, which, among other things, supported BGWC’s position on the fifteen (15) day deadline, and discussed the scope of the South Carolina Supreme Court’s Remand and the Rates-Under-Bond-Deferral Motion. Oral arguments on the matters in the two Petitions are appropriate, and are hereby set for Thursday, March 10, 2022 at 10:00 AM before the Commission.

Any party who wishes to respond to the ORS Petition may file said Response with the Commission and serve the Parties at or before Noon on Wednesday, March 9, 2022. With regard to the Company’s Petition, there is a change for a Reply. The Company may reply to any Responses at or before Noon on Wednesday, March 9, 2022, again, filing the Reply with the Commission and serving the Parties. This concludes the Chief Hearing Officer’s Directive Order.